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ABSTRACT

This collection of representative speeches delivered by public officials and other prominent persons contains addresses to both large and small organizations, given both on ceremonial occasions and on less formal occasions. The collection contains school commencement addresses, addresses to government bodies, speeches to international organizations, addresses to professional organizations, and speeches given in churches and at conferences. It is divided into the following sections: (1) The Human Community; (2) Religion and Prejudice; (3) Race; (4) Arts and the Humanities; (5) Government; and (6) Foreign Policy. Some of the well-known persons represented in the collection are President William J. Clinton; Warren Christopher; Hillary Rodham Clinton; Senator Edward Kennedy; Senator Carol Moseley-Braun; Janet Reno; Jane Alexander; and Johnetta B. Cole. Several speeches in the collection discuss how to define free speech and describe the particular areas in which First Amendment rights are most often called into question. The section on religion discusses church burnings in the South, and the section on race contains speeches which counsel against ethnic and religious differences. The section on arts and humanities contains speeches which lament cuts in public, private, and corporate spending on arts and humanities, suggesting that such cuts are undermining American cultural and educational institutions. The collection also contains a cumulative speaker index, 1990-1997. (NKA)



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